



Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association

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AUGSA Council

Date: January 11th, 2022 - 6:00pm MDT

Place: Web conference

Attendance :

Executive Committee: Julia Cornester (President), Kelli Buckreus (VP External), Chris Edwards (VP Operations & Finance),

Faculty of Business Representatives: Ian Chitwood

Faculty of Health Disciplines Representatives: Sabrina Martin, Kayleigh Dodge, Sarah Reid, Ruby Tano, Charlesly Salter

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative: Heather McGilvary, Sarah James, Alice Kang

Faculty of Science and Technology: Ajibade Shodunke, Russell Rupok

Staff: Meaghan Sullivan (Executive Director)

Regrets: Margaret Clappison, Kareena Hart (VP Academic)

		PRESENTER	ACTION
1.0	Call to Order	President	The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm MT.
2.0	Approval of Agenda	President	Motion 2.0 To approve the agenda as amended. Moved: Sabrina Martin Seconded: Ajibade Shodunke Motion carried without opposition.

3.0	Approval of Previous Minutes	President	<p>Motion 3.0 To approve the minutes of December 14, 2021 as presented.</p> <p>Moved: Heather McGilvary Seconded: Sarah Reid Motion carried without opposition.</p>
4.0	Reports and Presentations		
	4.1 President		<p>Advocacy took up a majority of time in December with many meetings booked through abGPAC with Alberta government officials.</p> <p>AUGSA will carry out a second advocacy week specific to AUGSA in February timeframe.</p>
	4.2 VP Academic		No update at this time.
	4.3 VP External		<p>In December, there was a large dedicated effort with abGPAC and advocacy week, which spanned three to four weeks of meetings with Alberta government representatives.</p> <p>The advocacy and outreach meeting scheduled for December with abGPAC was postponed but will take place later this month.</p> <p>abGPAC issued a press release in response to COVID-19 supporting institutional policies across the province that enable supports allowing universities to deliver safe returns to campus.</p> <p>Kelli Buckreus has been continuing her outreach to other GSAs in Canada discussing federal advocacy and networking.</p>
	4.4 VP Operations & Finance		<p>Chris Edwards took part in student portal interviews with the University in December contributing to the redesign project.</p> <p>The HR Committee had a meeting to discuss human resource initiatives.</p>
5.0	Financial Reports		The financial statements aren't quite ready but the budget is available. This year there will be

			extra awards and bursaries provided to AU graduate students.
6.0	Committee Updates		
	6.1 Governance Committee		No update at this time. The Committee will be meeting over the next month to work on the policy binder and conclude the policy work prior to end of term.
	6.2 Awards Committee		No update at this time.
	6.3 Engagement Committee		No update at this time. The committee hopes to meet before end of January to work on a promotional video for welcoming new members.
	6.4 Finance Committee		No update at this time.
	6.5 Strategic Planning Committee		The Strategic Planning Committee is working on a list of questions to include in a new survey to distribute to membership. A survey will be distributed and is tentatively scheduled for the first week of February.
	6.6 Elections Committee		Elections are ready. The CRO has been hired back on, the website has gone live, social media posts and a newsletter notifying membership of elections have also gone out. The elections committee has received their welcome email. The CRO is the Chair of the elections committee, and his start date is February 1st. Nominations open February 18th for Executive positions and for Faculty Representatives the nominations open on March 8th.
	6.7 Bargaining Committee		Motion 6.7: to appoint Chris Edwards, Russell Rupok and Charlie Salter to the Bargaining Committee. Move: Julia Cornester Second: Sabrina Martin Motion carried without opposition.

	6.8 Other Committees		<p>The Human Resource Committee will be meeting next month to do performance reviews and conclude this year's work.</p> <p>The Mental Health Committee is meeting in February.</p> <p>The Digital Transformation meeting was cancelled for the month of January. The next meeting is in February.</p>
7.0	Upcoming Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research Conference Theme 		<p>For the graduate student research conference (GSRC) theme survey, ten (10) theme ideas were submitted by graduate students. All ten themes seem to align and have the same vision of resiliency and being future forward. All the results will be brought to the GSRC steering committee for review.</p>
8.0	New Business		
9.0	Old Business		
10.0	Other Business		<p>Julia Cornester will be reaching out the Faculty Representatives to check in and see how things are going and if they require any assistance in supporting their faculties.</p>
11.0	Adjournment		<p>Motion 11.0: To adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm. Moved: Sarah Reid Seconded: Chris Edwards Carried without opposition.</p>

Julia Cornester, President

Meaghan Sullivan, Executive Director

Date of Approval